



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/646,796	11/21/2000	Aravinda Korala	2000-011	1579
23521	7590	07/06/2004	EXAMINER	
SALTAMAR INNOVATIONS 30 FERN LANE SOUTH PORTLAND, ME 04106			HAMILTON, LALITA M	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3624	

DATE MAILED: 07/06/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/646,796

Applicant(s)

KORALA, ARAVINDA

Examiner

Lalita M Hamilton

Art Unit

3624

Mg

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 34-109 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 34-109 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)            |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>g</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____  |

Art Unit: 3624

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Specification***

The following guidelines illustrate the preferred layout for the specification of a utility application. These guidelines are suggested for the applicant's use.

#### **Arrangement of the Specification**

As provided in 37 CFR 1.77(b), the specification of a utility application should include the following sections in order. Each of the lettered items should appear in upper case, without underlining or bold type, as a section heading. If no text follows the section heading, the phrase "Not Applicable" should follow the section heading:

- (a) TITLE OF THE INVENTION.
- (b) CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS.
- (c) STATEMENT REGARDING FEDERALLY SPONSORED RESEARCH OR DEVELOPMENT.
- (d) INCORPORATION-BY-REFERENCE OF MATERIAL SUBMITTED ON A COMPACT DISC (See 37 CFR 1.52(e)(5) and MPEP 608.05. Computer program listings (37 CFR 1.96(c)), "Sequence Listings" (37 CFR 1.821(c)), and tables having more than 50 pages of text are permitted to be submitted on compact discs.) or  
REFERENCE TO A "MICROFICHE APPENDIX" (See MPEP § 608.05(a). "Microfiche Appendices" were accepted by the Office until March 1, 2001.)
- (e) BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION.
  - (1) Field of the Invention.
  - (2) Description of Related Art including information disclosed under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.
- (f) BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION.
- (g) BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWING(S).
- (h) DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION.
- (i) CLAIM OR CLAIMS (commencing on a separate sheet).
- (j) ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE (commencing on a separate sheet).
- (k) SEQUENCE LISTING (See MPEP § 2424 and 37 CFR 1.821-1.825. A "Sequence Listing" is required on paper if the application discloses a nucleotide or amino acid sequence as defined in 37 CFR 1.821(a) and if the required "Sequence Listing" is not submitted as an electronic document on compact disc).

The specification does not include titles for the Background, Summary, or Brief Description of the Drawings.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

Claims 34-44, 46-51, 54, 57-62, 64-78, 80-85, 88, 91-96, and 98-109 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Eaton (6,003,019).

Eaton discloses a multi-transaction service method and corresponding system comprising operating a computer based transaction machine controlled by at least one software application to effect a transaction service, interacting said software application with a functional interface of a middleware software which extends the functionality of a computer operating system, the computer operating system providing control functions of said computer based transaction machine, said functional interface provides functionality adapted to the particular hardware of said transaction machine and said transaction device (col.1, lines 40-60 and col.3, line 5 to col.5, line 5); transaction

Art Unit: 3624

machine further comprises a data communications interface and wherein said transaction machine is adapted to communicate over said data communications interface (col.1, lines 40-60 and col.3, line 5 to col.5, line 5); the transaction machine is selected from a group consisting of an automatic teller machine, an electronic kiosk and an electronic point of sale machine (col.1, lines 40-60 and col.3, line 5 to col.5, line 5); middleware software comprises a series of transaction objects and controls for performing standardized device functions (col.1, lines 40-60 and col.3, line 5 to col.5, line 5); transaction machine further comprises a customizable user interface (col.1, lines 40-60 and col.3, line 5 to col.5, line 5); transaction objects are independent of said user interface (col.1, lines 40-60 and col.3, line 5 to col.5, line 5); a plurality of controls, at least one of which comprises a capabilities interface (col.1, lines 40-60 and col.3, line 5 to col.5, line 5); the capabilities interface can communicate the capabilities of the control (col.1, lines 40-60 and col.3, line 5 to col.5, line 5); applications, objects and controls are concurrently operable (col.1, lines 40-60 and col.3, line 5 to col.5, line 5); controls are constructed with an event generating capability and wherein a said controls are operable in a selectable mode in which said events are queued up and delivered to an application on demand (col.1, lines 40-60 and col.3, line 5 to col.5, line 5); middleware software is adapted to provide service in accordance with at least one software standard for interacting with different hardware systems (col.1, lines 40-60 and col.3, line 5 to col.5, line 5); all errors and transgressions are asserted by the middleware software (col.1, lines 40-60 and col.3, line 5 to col.5, line 5); the step of the middleware software writing trace data to memory and then copies it to disk only when the

Art Unit: 3624

transaction machine is idle (col.1, lines 40-60 and col.3, line 5 to col.5, line 5); a web browser (col.1, lines 40-60 and col.3, line 5 to col.5, line 5); at least one software application is operable from within said web browser environment (col.1, lines 40-60 and col.3, line 5 to col.5, line 5); web browser provides support for software distribution (col.1, lines 40-60 and col.3, line 5 to col.5, line 5); a web browser frame containing at least one device control operable to detect events which must be responded to upon occurrence (col.1, lines 40-60 and col.3, line 5 to col.5, line 5); web browser is adapted to communicate with conventional web sites to be displayed by the computer-based transaction machine (col.1, lines 40-60 and col.3, line 5 to col.5, line 5); the computer-based transaction machine is adapted to allow the software applications and middleware to be altered across a network by an authority (col.1, lines 40-60 and col.3, line 5 to col.5, line 5); the transaction machine is adapted to communicate status information to a remote station (col.1, lines 40-60 and col.3, line 5 to col.5, line 5); at least one of said transaction objects provide, separately or in combination with other transaction objects and controls, encapsulation of software logic required for performing at least a portion of a transaction (col.1, lines 40-60 and col.3, line 5 to col.5, line 5); at least one of said controls is a device control, providing abstraction of details of a device controlled by said device control (col.1, lines 40-60 and col.3, line 5 to col.5, line 5); step of creating a separate thread for each of a plurality of controls (col.1, lines 40-60 and col.3, line 5 to col.5, line 5); the step of enabling said application program to communicate over said communication interface through a control (col.1, lines 40-60 and col.3, line 5 to col.5, line 5); middleware software provides generic error handlers

(col.1, lines 40-60 and col.3, line 5 to col.5, line 5); configuring a plurality of transaction machines, and wherein configuration data for said step of configuring is centrally held in a distribution file (col.1, lines 40-60 and col.3, line 5 to col.5, line 5); constructing said user interface using common web authoring tools (col.1, lines 40-60 and col.3, line 5 to col.5, line 5); the operating system is Microsoft Windows NT (col.1, lines 40-60 and col.3, line 5 to col.5, line 5); at least one transaction device, having a set of capabilities inherent thereto, an operating system to communicate with, and control said transaction device, at least one software application having a user interface, and adapted for execution under control of said operating system, middleware software adapted to interact with said operating system and with said software application, said middleware software having a functional interface adapted to provide an interface to particular hardware capabilities of said transaction machine, and, wherein said middleware software further comprising an application programming interface adapted to provide communication and control services with said transaction device to said software application (col.1, lines 40-60 and col.3, line 5 to col.5, line 5); one or more networking means and one or more application servers (col.1, lines 40-60 and col.3, line 5 to col.5, line 5); an extranet formed by combining a plurality of networks o computer-based transaction machines to the above claim (col.1, lines 40-60 and col.3, line 5 to col.5, line 5); an extranet according to the above claim provided with a security mechanism which limits the hardware functionality available to individual software applications (col.1, lines 40-60 and col.3, line 5 to col.5, line 5); operating by a first organization a computer based transaction machine controlled by at least one software application to affect a

Art Unit: 3624

transaction service, wherein said software application is provided by a second organization, wherein said software application provides an transaction type different than the transaction type associated with said first organization (col.1, lines 40-60 and col.3, line 5 to col.5, line 5); a method for selling tickets comprising the steps of operating, by a first organization, a computer based automated teller machine having a data communication interface, a display device, an input device, and at least one transaction device adapted for user identification, executing a software application on said computer based automated teller machine, said software application being adapted to issue tickets for events or services provided by a second organization, and, automatically charging a user account for said ticket utilizing facilities provided by said automated teller machine (col.1, lines 40-60 and col.3, line 5 to col.5, line 5); the method of selling tickets of the above claim wherein said tickets are selected from a list comprising airline tickets, cinema tickets and theatre tickets (col.1, lines 40-60 and col.3, line 5 to col.5, line 5); a method for selling tickets comprising the steps of operating, by a first organization, a computer based kiosk having a data communication interface, a display device, an input device, and at least one transaction device adapted for user identification, executing a software application on said computer based kiosk, said software application being adapted to issue tickets for events or services provided by a second organization, and automatically charging a user account for said ticket utilizing facilities provided by said kiosk (col.1, lines 40-60 and col.3, line 5 to col.5, line 5); and tickets are selected from a list comprising airline tickets, cinema tickets and theatre tickets (col.1, lines 40-60 and col.3, line 5 to col.5, line 5).



Art Unit: 3624

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

Claims 45, 63, 79, and 97 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Eaton in view of Schraeder (5,903,811).

Eaton discloses the invention substantially as claimed; however, Eaton does not disclose at least one software standard is selected from a group consisting of WOSA XFS, OPOS, OFX, TOPEND, ActiveX, Javabeans, SNMP or at least one of said controls implements an OFX interface or a portion thereof, to facilitate communication with an OFX server. Schraeder teaches an online banking method and corresponding system comprising at least one software standard is selected from a group consisting of WOSA XFS, OPOS, OFX, TOPEND, ActiveX, Javabeans, SNMP (col.17, lines 5-10) and at least one of said controls implements an OFX interface or a portion thereof, to facilitate communication with an OFX server (col.17, lines 5-10). It would have been

obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate at least one software standard is selected from a group consisting of WOSA, XFS, OPOS, OFX, TOPEND, ActiveX, Javabeans, SNMP and at least one of said controls implements an OFX interface or a portion thereof, to facilitate communication with an OFX server, as taught by Schraeder into the invention disclosed by Eaton, to have the software and controls necessary to execute the programs desired by the user.

Claims 52-53, 55-56, 86-87, and 89-90 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Eaton in view of Wolfe (6,006,252).

Eaton discloses the invention substantially as claimed; however, Eaton does not disclose middleware software comprising a plurality of COM components having a scriptable ActiveX interface; middleware software comprising a plurality of Javabeans components having scriptable interfaces; middleware software allows or disallows access to particular web sites according to a rule database; or middleware software is adapted to customize time-out of the display of individual internet web sites. Wolfe teaches method and corresponding system for communicating information relating to a network resource comprising middleware software comprising a plurality of COM components having a scriptable ActiveX interface (col.8, lines 1-11); middleware software comprising a plurality of Javabeans components having scriptable interfaces (col.8, lines 1-11); middleware software allows or disallows access to particular web sites according to a rule database (fig.11-14-all and col.8, lines 49-65); and middleware software is adapted to customize time-out of the display of individual internet web sites (fig.11-14-all and col.8, lines 49-65). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary

Art Unit: 3624

skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate middleware software comprising a plurality of COM components having a scriptable ActiveX interface; middleware software comprising a plurality of Javabeans components having scriptable interfaces; middleware software allows or disallows access to particular web sites according to a rule database; and middleware software is adapted to customize time-out of the display of individual internet web sites, as taught by Wolfe into the invention disclosed by Eaton, to provide the software necessary to execute the programs desired by the user and to prevent access to unauthorized sites.

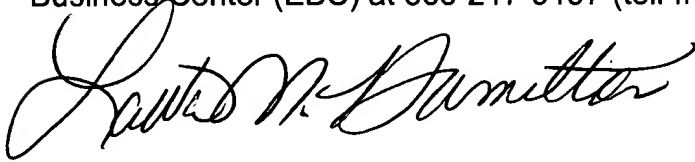
### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lalita M Hamilton whose telephone number is (703) 306-5715. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday-Thursday (8:30-4:30).

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 3624

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



LMH



VINCENT MILLIN  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600